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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE:

25X1A The Haeju Peoples' Hospital

1. On 3 April 1953 the Haeju Peoples' Hospital was at the foot of a mountain on the outskirts of Haeju City at YC-359143. The hospital was in four trench-like wooden structures which were 2 meters deep. The first trench was 11 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 2 meters high, with two entrances on the east side, and two entrances on the south side. This trench housed the reception room, the surgery room, and the interior department room. The second trench was 5 meters west of the first trench and had an entrance on the south side. This trench was 8 meters long, 4 meters wide, 2 meters high, and housed the pharmacy and inoculation rooms. The third trench was 10 meters north of the first trench. This trench was 8 meters long, 4 meters wide, 2 meters high, and housed the manager's room and the main office. The fourth trench was 5 meters west of the third trench and was used as a ward. This trench was 10 meters long, 4 meters wide, 2 meters high, and had an entrance on the south side.

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2. Approximately 70 percent of the patients were those wounded in air attacks. These people paid a five won examination fee plus the cost of treatment. Government officials received free medical treatment as set forth in the North Korean Cabinet Order Number 48, dated 1 January 1953. Injections were only given to patients who brought their own drugs, such as penicillin. Only minor surgery was performed because of the lack of equipment and medicines. The hospital employed the following people: a manager, 5 doctors, 2 surgeons, 2 physicians, 1 ward doctor, 16 nurses, 2 pharmacists, 5 clerks, and 2 laborers. One of the physicians was KIM Tong-uk (6855/2639/6735), aged 45 and former private practitioner in Haeju. One of the surgeons was YI Chae-son (2621/0961/0810), aged 48, member of the North Korean Labor Party, and former superintendent of the Tongsan Hospital in Haeju.

The Chakto-ri Peoples' Hospital

3. On 20 May 1953 the Chakto-ri (N 39-49, E 127-39) (CV-8508) Peoples' Hospital was in a tunnel at CV-850079. The tunnel was 10 meters long, 1.5 meters high, and 1.5 meters wide, with wings on both sides of the entrance. The hospital was in the left wing, and it was divided into 3 rooms; the treatment room, the consultation room, and the pharmacy. All 3 rooms were equipped with electricity. There were 3 employees in the hospital; a doctor, aged 40; a nurse, aged 19; and a pharmacist, aged 37. Approximately 5 patients came to the hospital each day, and there was no charge for treatment. The more serious cases were recommended to go to the Peoples' Hospital in Hungnam.

Chinese Communist Army Hospital

4. In May 1953 a Chinese Communist army hospital was at the foot of a mountain at BT-509298 in Kosa-dong (N 38-11, E 126-10) (BT-5029). The hospital was staffed with 100 doctors, 20 Chinese nurses, and 20 North Korean nurses. There were approximately 1,500 patients in the hospital, 50 percent of whom were surgical cases from the front lines. The more serious cases received three bowls of gruel each day, while the other patients received three bowls of rice. Cigarettes were also issued to the patients. Most of the patients, with the exception of tubercular cases, were kept in the hospital until fully recovered. The tubercular cases were sent home after 3 or 4 days of treatment. The hospital was guarded by soldiers armed with Soviet carbines. Supplies were kept in a warehouse between BT-508297 and BT-513303. The warehouse was 10 meters square.

The Samho Peoples' Hospital

5. On 5 June 1953, the Samho (N 39-56, E 127-53) (DV-0521) Peoples' Hospital was in a wooden house at DV-034196. The house was 10 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 2 meters high, with a tile roof. The lower half of the walls were plastered with mud, 1 meter high and 1 meter wide. The physician in the hospital was CH'A Yon-kyo (6508/5888/2403), aged 42. CH'A had been previously arrested for collaboration with the United Nations forces, but was released to serve in the hospital because of the shortage of doctors. KIM Yong-sam (6855/3144/0005), aged 35, was a pharmacist in the hospital.

The 1st Peoples' Hospital in Tŏkhŭng-ni

6. On 10 June 1953, the 1st Peoples' Hospital was at YD-138149 in Tŏkhŭng-ni (N 38-58, E 125-28) (YD-1416). This hospital was operated under the supervision of the South P'yŏngan Provincial Branch of the North Korean Ministry of Health. The hospital was in a Korean tile-roofed house, and it covered approximately 78 square yards. The hospital lacked proper medical equipment and supplies. The drugs on hand consisted of penicillin and sulfadiazine. Although it was called the 1st Peoples' Hospital, only members of the Korean Labor Party in North Korea were admitted as patients. The director of the hospital was KIM Ch'ŏ-hong (6855/5710/3163), aged 50, and a graduate of the Medical Department of the Tokyo Imperial University. CH'Ō resided in Tongdaewon-ni, P'yongyang. The hospital staff included 3 doctors and 10 nurses.

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The North Korean Army 668th Field Hospital

7. On 23 June 1953 the North Korean Army 668th Field Hospital was in a valley at DT-209854 in Sinp'ung-ni (N 38-43, E 128-05) (DT-2085). A ward for internal disease cases was housed in three semi-dugouts, and a surgical ward was in two semi-dugouts. Each dugout was 20 to 25 meters long, 2.5 meters wide, and 2 meters high. There were two operating rooms, each of which was 5 meters long, 5 meters wide, and 2 meters high; and a reception room which was 15 meters long, 3 meters wide, and 2 meters high. The dugouts were all straw-roofed, and the surrounding pine trees were a natural camouflage.
8. On 23 June 1953 there were 14 medical officers, 30 medical technicians, 5 nurses, and 15 clerks attached to the hospital. The hospital was organized as follows: A Political Section; a Labor Party Committee; a Medical Officers' Section; a Rear Service Section and a Democratic Youth Alliance Committee. There were approximately 200 patients in the hospital, 80 percent of whom were casualties from the front lines. The more serious cases were moved to rear area hospitals. The majority of the drugs and medicines used by the hospital were made in China. Each patient received 1,000 grams of rice each day. Side dishes consisted of pork, potatoes, and other vegetables. The patients' gowns and linen were washed once a week. The entire area was guarded by one platoon of troops from the North Korean VII Corps.

The 26th Hospital of the North Korean Army

9. In mid-July 1953, the 26th Hospital of the Surgical Department of the North Korean Army Headquarters was in five farm houses at YD-290490 in Ch'onsok-tong (N 39-16, E 125-39) (YD-2949). The staff at the hospital consisted of 3 Soviet advisors, 30 army surgeons, 20 nurses, and 18 assistants. Ward I, 40 patients, was at YD-271497 and had a staff of two doctors, two nurses, and two assistants. Ward II, 80 patients, was at YD-250495 and had a staff of 4 doctors, 10 nurses, and 5 assistants.
10. In mid-July 1953, the hospital was more of a transit medical station, rather than a regular hospital. The hospital lacked adequate equipment and was short on medical supplies. There was not enough space to handle many patients, and the death rate was high because of the poor facilities. Slightly wounded patients were sent to rear area hospitals where they were treated and reassigned to an army unit. The more serious patients were discharged from the army in the field and removed from the hospital.

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